UNSTAD's Forecasts Of Economic slowdown in India

354. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: DR. BAPU KALDATE: SHRI VISHWASRAO RAM-RAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to Express news-itern dated the 15th September, 1991 captioned "UNCTAD forecasts economic slow down in India";

(b) if so, whether suggestions in the UNCTAD report particularly on trade related aspects of "TRIPS" are being properly looked into with the country's interest at the forefront; and

(c) what are the approach plans of Government to stop economic slow down on account of trade balance?

THE MINISETR OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF .COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report reflects the concern already voiced by several developing countries including India in the area of TRIPS.

(c) The Government has introduced a package of trade policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives, eliminating substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. REP licences have been replaced by a new instrument named Eximscrjps. These will be the means of obtaining access to certain categories of imports of raw materials, components and' spares. The system of advance licensing as an instrument of export promotion has also been strengthened. Government has decided to allow established exporters *to* open foreign currency accounts in aproved banks and allow exporters to raise external credits. pay for export related imports from such accounts and credit export proceeds to such accounts. Besides, Government have taken other steps which include reducing, controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for exports, aetivisation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussion with selected countries, interaction with national organisations of trade and industry, etc.

Survey on Export Potentialities for Small Sector by Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

355. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Institute . of Foreign Trade has conducted any survey during the last three years for finding out export potentialities/ growth for various products particularly for smsll sector; and

(b) if so, what are the names and addresses of foreign partics who have shown interest in transfer of adver-ced technology technical know-how relating to production, drawing, design or joint venture and also in-dicated their willingness for sales rights for ths products, product wise and party-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE •'SHRI P CHIOAMBARAM): (a) Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has not conducted any' survey during the last three years specificaly for find-ing out export notentiaalities /growth for various products of small sector, as such.

(b) Does not arise.

[illegible] स्थापित करने के लिए सलाहा-कार समिति

356. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को भारत में मुक्त पत्तन स्थापित करने की व्यवहार्यता का पता लगाने के लिए गठित की गई सलाहकार समिति का प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हो गया है ;